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45 1. A system for processing a source compressed data stream that has a first group of source segments and a second group of source segments, the system comprising:

50 a first processing unit for selectively modifying a status of said first group of source segments to generate a first group of target segments; and

55 a second processing unit for performing an operation on said second group of source segments to generate a second group of target segments, the second processing unit comprising:

60 a decompressing unit for performing a decompression on said second group of source segments to generate a group of decompressed source segments;

65 an operating unit for performing an operation on said group of decompressed source segments to generate a group of uncompressed target segments; and

70 a recompressing unit for performing a recompression on said group of uncompressed target segments to generate said second group of target segments.

75 2. The system of claim 1 further comprising a dispatching unit for separating said source compressed data stream into said first group of source segments and said second group of source segments.

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3. The system of claim 1 further comprising an integrating unit for combining said first group of target segments and said second group of target segments to generate a target compressed data stream.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein said status of said first group of source segments comprises a timestamp.

5. The system of claim 1 wherein said second processing unit refers to a parameter data segment while performing said operation.

6. The system of claim 5 wherein said parameter data segment is decompressed from another source compressed data stream.

7. The system of claim 1 wherein said operation is to change said group of decompressed source segments according to a rule.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein said operation is to mix data into said group of decompressed source segments.

9. The system of claim 1 wherein said source compressed data stream is a Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG) video data stream.

10. The system of claim 1 wherein said source compressed data stream is a Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG) audio data stream.

11. A method for processing a source compressed data stream comprising the steps of:

separating said source compressed data stream into a first group of source segments and a second group of source segments;

selectively modifying a status of said first group of source segments to generate a first group of target segments; and

performing a manipulation on said second group of source segments, said manipulation comprising steps of:

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decompressing said second group of source segments to generate a group of decompressed source segments;

performing an operation on said group of decompressed source segments to generate a group of uncompressed target segments; and

performing a compression on said group of uncompressed target segments to generate a second group of target segments.

0 12. The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of combining said first group of target segments and said second group of target segments to generate a target compressed data stream.

5 13. The method of claim 11 wherein said status of said first group of source segments comprises a timestamp.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein said operation refers to a parameter data segment.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said parameter data segment is decompressed from another source compressed data stream.

0 16. The method of claim 11 wherein said operation is to change said group of decompressed source segments according to a rule.

5 17. The method of claim 11 wherein said operation is to mix data into said group of decompressed source segments.

18. The method of claim 11 wherein said source compressed data stream is a Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG) video data stream.

0 19. The method of claim 11 wherein said source compressed data stream is a Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG) audio data stream.

20. (previously presented) In a system for processing a source compressed data stream that has a group of source segments, a processing unit for performing an operation on said group of source segments to generate a group of target segments, the processing unit comprising:
a decompressing unit for performing a decompression on said second group of source segments to generate a group of decompressed source segments;

an operating unit for performing an operation on said group of decompressed source segments to generate a group of uncompressed target segments; and
a recompressing unit for performing a recompression on said group of uncompressed target segments to generate said group of target segments.

21. (previously presented) A system for processing a source compressed data stream that has both first and second type source segments, the system comprising:

a first processing unit for selectively modifying a status associated with information of said first type of source segments to generate first target segments; and

a second processing unit for performing an operation on said second type of source segments to generate second target segments, the second processing unit comprising:

a decompressing unit for performing a decompression on said second type of source segments to generate decompressed source segments;

an operating unit for performing an operation on said decompressed source segments to generate uncompressed target segments; and

a recompressing unit for performing a recompression on said uncompressed target segments to generate said second target segments.

22. (New) The system of claim 21 further comprising a dispatching unit for separating said source compressed data stream into said first type of source segments and said second type of source segments.

23. (previously presented) The system of claim 21 further comprising an integrating unit for

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combining said first target segments and said second target segments to generate a target compressed data stream.

24. (previously presented) A method for processing a source compressed data stream comprising the steps of:

- extracting source segments from said source compressed data stream;
- performing a manipulation on said source segments, said manipulation comprising steps of:
 - decompressing said source segments to generate decompressed source segments;
 - performing an operation on said decompressed source segments to generate uncompressed target segments; and
- performing a compression on said uncompressed target segments to generate target segments.

25. (amended) A system for processing a source compressed data stream that has both first and second type source segments, the system comprising:

- a unit for selectively modifying a status associated with information of said first type of source segments to generate first target segments, the first processing unit operative to selectively modify the status without decompressing information in the first type source segments; and
- a second processing unit for performing an operation on said second type of source segments to generate second target segments, the second processing unit operative to decompress information in the second type of source segments before performing the operation.

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26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously presented) A method for processing a source compressed data stream comprising the steps of:

extracting source segments from said source compressed data stream; and
selectively modifying a status of said first group of source segments, without decompressing
information in the source segments, to generate a first group of target segments.